

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 3, 1896.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. THURSTON, from the Select Committee on International Expositions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. R. 78.]

The Select Committee on International Expositions, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S. R. 78) authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to distribute the medals and diplomas awarded by the World's Columbian Commission to the exhibitors entitled thereto, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report it back with the following amendment:

Strike out all after line 2 and insert the following:

That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to distribute the medals and diplomas of the World's Columbian Exposition to the several exhibitors entitled thereto, as designated and certified by the report of the executive committee on awards to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Bureau of the Mint, and to this end the Secretary of the Treasury may adopt any method or create any and all agencies which to him may seem proper and necessary for the distribution of said medals and diplomas. But in case any of the exhibitors can not be found who may be entitled to medals and diplomas then, in every such case, such medals and diplomas shall be retained by the Secretary of the Treasury until they are called for by the exhibitors entitled thereto, or by persons authorized to receive the same. And the said Secretary, in the distribution of the medals and diplomas, may transmit the same through the mails free of charge. And the sum of \$15,000 is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying out this resolution; and for the purposes hereof the said Secretary may temporarily employ, under such regulations as he may prescribe, the force now engaged in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in connection with the preparation of said diplomas, or so much of said force as may be necessary; said appropriation to be immediately available.

The joint resolution provides for the distribution of medals and diplomas awarded by the World's Columbian Commission to the exhibitors entitled thereto, as shown by the list furnished to the Secretary of the Treasury. It is necessary that the appropriation for this purpose should be immediately made so as to become available within the next few days, in order to continue the work in the Treasury Department. The force now giving out these awards is a separate one and will be scattered if the money is not forthcoming to pay them.

Your committee have submitted the joint resolution to the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, and in reply received a communication transmitting a form of bill which is the amendment proposed by the committee.

The letter of the Acting Secretary of the Treasury is as follows:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., February 21, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th instant inclosing, for an expression of my opinion, a copy of joint resolution (S. R. 78) authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to distribute the medals and

diplomas awarded by the World's Columbian Commission to the exhibitors entitled thereto. In reply I beg to state that if it is thought proper to direct the Treasury Department to make the distribution of the medals and diplomas in question, the joint resolution should, in my opinion, be passed in a form substantially similar to the draft which I take the liberty to inclose herewith.

In reply to your inquiry as to the amount of appropriation necessary for the purpose, the amount mentioned in the joint resolution, i. e., \$15,000, represents a fair estimate of the probable expense of making the distribution of the medals and diplomas.

Respectfully, yours,

S. WIKE,
Acting Secretary.

Hon. JOHN M. THURSTON,

Chairman Select Committee on International Expositions, United States Senate.

As amended above, your committee recommend the passage of the joint resolution.

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